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OLC 73-0760

26 June 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel, Senate
Armed Services Committee, re Mr. Colby's Confirmation

1. This morning Mr. Braswell called to say that Senator Symington plans at the Colby confirmation hearings on Monday, 2 July, to ask a number of questions designed to give Mr. Colby an opportunity to deal publicly with a number of troublesome and controversial issues involving the Agency. Mr. Braswell spoke of Senator Symington's desire to "use public hearings to strengthen the CIA" in the face of current criticism and suspicion. As examples of the kinds of issues which Braswell said the Senator wishes to ventilate are the following:

- a. Does CIA operate under a "secret charter?"
- b. What is the Agency's relationship with the National Security Council?
- c. What is the legal authority for clandestine operations, and particularly covert political and paramilitary action?
- d. To what extent are these authorities spelled out in the NSCIDs, and what is the status of the NSCIDs?
- e. Why can't the NSCIDs be made available to the Congress?
- f. What is the Agency's position regarding various recent and pending legislative proposals affecting the Agency?

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g. What is the proper and necessary scope of Agency activities within the U.S.?

h. What should be the future Agency policy in dealing with problems such as the "Hunt matter"?

i. What is the proper role of the military in the preparation of National Estimates and other national intelligence studies?

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Legislative Counsel

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